



Carrier enforcement officers and Sûreté du Québec officers in front of the unmarked bus used in the "Safe Driver" operation.

CCMTA POLICE PARTNERSHIP AWARD NOMINATION



CONTRÔLE ROUTIER QUÉBEC (CRQ)

Agency mandated to enforce provincial laws under the responsibility of the Ministry of Transport, Sustainable Mobility and Transport Electrification and attached to the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec (SAAQ).

**Sous-titrage anglais pour la vidéo de mise en candidature pour le prix de partenariat CCATM-
Police**

0:00 White truck, 18-wheeler.
Texting at the wheel. Left hand.

0:05 I am not on board this motor coach as a tourist,
0:07 nor am I on a leisure ride.

0:10 I am with CRQ carrier enforcement officers and SQ police officers
0:13 for a special "Texting" operation.

0:19 We take advantage of the vehicle's height to catch drivers holding a cell phone in their
hands.

0:22 We can quickly spot offending drivers.

0:26 This method is very different from, say, more conventional operations.

0:28 A one-of-a-kind operation in addition to everything else that's already being done
0:33 to incite drivers to change their delinquent behaviours.

0:35 Today, we're conducting an operation in cooperation with the SAAQ
0:40 and carrier enforcement officers. In most cases, it's easy to see people
0:44 who are talking on their cell phone, but those who are texting, with their phone on their
lap for example,
0:50 that's more difficult to spot from inside a patrol vehicle.

0:53 Here, we have a really great vantage point.

0:54 We're at the same level as drivers of heavy vehicles,
0:58 we pull up right alongside them.

0:59 We get a really good view of whether or not they're buckled up
1:03 or whether they're using their cell phone.

1:08 We were expecting to see many offenders. We did not expect to see as many as we did.

- 1:16 This operation from high above, called "Safe Driver"
- 1:19 is an addition to the campaign titled "When you text and drive, you just don't care about the consequences."
- 1:23 It's all about your safety and the safety of others. For more information, refer to the website of the SAAQ.

CCMTA Police Partnership Award Nomination

As part of its mission to monitor and control road transportation of goods and passengers, as well as to prevent and suppress violations of the laws and regulations that govern the transportation industry and any other laws enacted by the government, Contrôle routier Québec (CRQ) works to:

- improve the safety of road users;
- protect the road network;
- ensure fair competition in the goods and passenger transportation industry.

In order to intervene on the issues that have a significant impact on road safety, CRQ carries out several operations every year to improve the safety of road users and to protect the road network. In this regard, distracted driving is one of the most often-reported main causes of accidents with bodily injury.¹ Thus, the use of cell phones at the wheel is a significant road safety issue. For heavy vehicle drivers in particular, the risk is 20 times higher than for a driver who is not using a cell phone.² This is the context in which the strategic partnership between CRQ and the Sûreté du Québec (SQ) was established.

A provincial agreement has been entered into with this partner for the purpose of conducting a large-scale "Safe Driver" operation targeting one of the leading causes of distracted driving: cell phones. This joint operation was carried out using an unmarked motor coach with tinted windows to provide a higher vantage point. This provided CRQ carrier enforcement officers and SQ officers riding in the motor coach with a clear and detailed view of drivers of all types of vehicles. In



addition, SQ and CRQ patrol vehicles were travelling ahead of the motor coach. When the CRQ or SQ officers on board the motor coach detected an offence, they notified their respective colleague in the patrol vehicle to intercept the offending driver.

Unmarked motor coach and patrol vehicles used in the operation.

Among other items enclosed with our nomination, you will find a video clip that presents the joint operation that was carried out.

¹ Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec. *Detailed profile of facts and statistics regarding distracted driving.*

² *Ibid.*

This partnership has yielded a number of benefits, such as:

- targeting all users of the road network and helping to alleviate the consequences of distracted driving, which is an issue that affects drivers of all ages and every type of vehicle;
- maximizing the effectiveness of the interventions on driver behaviour, as this approach also makes it possible to intervene on various crash factors that result in death and serious injury, such as failure to wear a seat belt, road rage and other sources of distraction;
- facilitating road safety interventions with the presence of two law enforcement agencies and an intervention method that can precisely identify inappropriate driver behaviour;
- building a sustainable partnership between the two law enforcement agencies;
- increasing road user concerns about being pulled over, which may incite drivers to adopt safe behaviour;
- promoting the sharing of knowledge, expertise and intervention methods between the two agencies;
- maximizing the use of financial and material resources.

The "Safe Driver" operation was not the first joint project between CRQ and the SQ. A number of operations and activities were carried out in 2017 in a united effort to improve the fatal crash record on Québec's road network. Here are a few examples of prevention/awareness operations and activities that were conducted in partnership with the SQ in 2017:

Partnerships with the Sûreté du Québec	Description of the Partnership
Joint operations on the road network to raise awareness about the Move-Over Law (buffer lane)	Raising driver awareness of the rules regarding the Move-Over Law and handing out an information guide
Awareness-raising activities about heavy vehicle blind spots	Activities carried out in certain elementary schools and high schools
"Did you see me?" provincial Bus Carrier Federation safety campaign	Raising driver awareness in school zones
SAAQ campaign targeting driver behaviour	Operation targeting speeding, one of the leading causes of accidents
IMPACT operation targeting driver behaviour	Canada-wide police control operation to which CRQ contributed its expertise on drivers of vehicles transporting goods and passengers

In addition to their joint operations and activities, the SQ and CRQ also cooperate by sharing their expertise, in particular through benchmarking to identify best practices in the modes, means and methods of intervention.

CRQ carrier enforcement officers, SQ officers, teachers and students at Sainte-Lucie school in Jonquière participating in the "Did you see me?" campaign.



In conclusion, we hereby submit our nomination for the CCMTA Police Partnership Award to showcase this strategic partnership that has resulted in safer behaviour among drivers on Québec's road network.

The representative who will accept the award, should that honour be bestowed upon us, is Mr. Claude Pigeon, General Director of Operational Support at the Vice-Presidency of Carrier Enforcement and Vehicle Safety.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Régis Gagnon', is written on the document.

Régis Gagnon
Director of Operational Support, Investigations and Intelligence
General Direction of Operational Support
Vice-Presidency of Carrier Enforcement and Vehicle Safety

Encl. Letter of support from the Sûreté du Québec
Media releases for the operation « Safe Driver »



Partnership Between Contrôle routier Québec and the Sûreté du Québec

With a shared concern for road safety, Contrôle routier Québec (CRQ) and the Sûreté du Québec (SQ) have worked together for many years. In that time, our two law enforcement agencies have developed a sustainable partnership, both in terms of joint operations and communications.

The SQ is proud to take part in the "Safe Driver" operation, a CRQ initiative. Although the SQ has had the opportunity to take part in this operation on several occasions in the past, we are delighted to now be involved in an official capacity and on a regular basis. The pairing of the two agencies greatly facilitates road safety interventions by increasing concerns about being pulled over among users of the road network. In particular, the SQ's contribution to CRQ operations makes it possible to target not only heavy vehicle drivers, but all users of the road network.

The SQ's participation in the "Safe Driver" operation is an opportunity for the two agencies to pursue a sustainable partnership, share knowledge, create a significant province-wide field network, generate greater public visibility for the two agencies, create a positive work experience for CRQ carrier enforcement officers and SQ officers, provide an effective tool to intervene on crash factors (distraction, road rage, failure to wear a seat belt, etc.), carry out complete interventions by intercepting all types of vehicles, share expertise and work methods and, lastly, share human and physical resources as part of a large-scale operation.

It should be noted that this inter-agency partnership was strengthened as a result of a fatal crash in which the driver of a heavy vehicle lost his life after failing to enter a rest area. As a result of this tragedy and the coroner's recommendations, a committee was created enjoining the two agencies to work together. In June 2016, the first joint provincial operation saw the light of day, targeting any vehicle weighing three tonnes or more failing to stop at a brake check area, which was referred to as operation "Allez! Prenez l'aire."

The "Safe Driver" operation has indeed proven its value and the SQ salutes this wonderful initiative by our CRQ colleagues. Whether as part of this large-scale operation or any other activity, CRQ can count on the full cooperation of the Sûreté du Québec to make the road network safer and continue to improve the fatal crash record on Québec roads.

Sergeant Lyne Lapierre
Legislative and Regulatory Interpretation Specialist
Service de la sécurité routière et récréotouristique
Sûreté du Québec

Media releases for the operation « Safe Driver »

<http://ici.radio-canada.ca/nouvelle/1070252/cellulaire-volant-operation-controle-routier-quebec-saaq-autobus-banalise>

<https://www.lanouvelle.net/operation-policriere-32-conducteurs-recoivent-une-amende/>

<http://ici.radio-canada.ca/nouvelle/1021133/autobus-cellulaire-volant>